

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the careful consideration given the present application. The application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office action, and amended as necessary to more clearly and particularly describe the subject matter of the application.

Claim 15 is amended.

New claim 21 is added.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §102

Claims 5, 6, and 8-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) as being anticipated by Kanzaki et al (US 7105786). For at least the following reasons, the rejection is respectfully traversed.

Regarding claim 5, in S13 and S14 of Fig. 8 in US 7105786 (Kanzaki), it is confirmed whether the temperature of the temperature detecting part 20 reaches a preset temperature after the set time has elapsed, generating steam, heater for heating inside air, etc. are **stopped**. It is impossible to control the heating chamber interior heater and the steam supplier to thereby be able to maintain the heating chamber interior temperature at a given heating temperature suitable for keeping the object to be warm and moist. Therefore, since every limitation of claim 1 is not taught by the reference, claim 1 is not fully anticipated by Kanzaki. Thus, withdrawal of the rejection as it applies to claim 1 is respectfully requested.

Claims 6, and 8-14 which are directly or indirectly dependent from claim 5 should also be allowable for at least the same reason.

Regarding claim 15, Kanzaki does not disclose that the control part controls the fan. Also, in S13 and S14 of Fig. 8 in US 7105786 (Kanzaki), it is confirmed whether the temperature of the temperature detecting part 20 reaches a preset temperature after the set time has elapsed, generating steam, heater for heating inside air, etc. are **stopped**. It is impossible to control the heating chamber interior heater and the steam supplier to thereby be able to maintain the heating chamber interior temperature at a given heating temperature suitable for keeping the object to be warm and moist. Therefore, since every limitation of claim 15 is not taught by the reference, claim 15 is not fully anticipated by Kanzaki. Thus, withdrawal of the rejection as it applies to claim 15 is respectfully requested.

Claims 16-18 which are dependent from claim 15 should also be allowable for at least the same reason.

Regarding claim 19, Kanzaki does not disclose that the heating chamber temperature detector is an infrared sensor. Also, in S13 and S14 of Fig. 8 in US 7105786 (Kanzaki), it is confirmed whether the temperature of the temperature detecting part 20 reaches a preset temperature after the set time has elapsed, generating steam, heater for heating inside air, etc. are **stopped**. It is impossible to control the heating chamber interior heater and the steam supplier to thereby be able to maintain the heating chamber interior temperature at a given heating temperature suitable for keeping the object to be warm and moist. Therefore, since every limitation of claim 19 is not taught by the reference, claim 19 is not fully anticipated by Kanzaki. Thus, withdrawal of the rejection as it applies to claim 19 is respectfully requested.

Claim 20 which is dependent from claim 19 should also be allowable for at least the same reason.

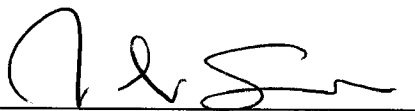
Regarding new claim 21, Kanzaki does not disclose a compare and judge portion for comparing the detected **temperature of the interior of the heating chamber** with a reference temperature. The Office action states that Kanzaki discloses a control part (501) controlling heater and steamer based on detected chamber temperature (abstract) up to a given time (column 6, line 63 - column 7, line 54). However, there is no disclosure in Kanzaki that the control part (501) compares the detected temperature of the interior of the heating chamber with a reference temperature.

In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and notice to that effect is hereby requested. If it is determined that the application is not in a condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to initiate a telephone interview with the undersigned attorney to expedite prosecution of the present application.

If there are any additional fees resulting from this communication, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 16-0820, our Order No.: NGB-41414.

Respectfully submitted,

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